Grant Program
Call for Proposals

Description

The Primary Care Consortium provides grants up to $5,000 to support projects that involve research, quality improvement, advocacy, development of clinical decision support tools, or educational activities that advance primary care as it relates to patient safety, innovations in healthcare delivery, addressing disparities in healthcare, etc. Proposed projects should have the potential to broadly impact further programming, education, advocacy, or research for primary care advancement in the future. Any Emory student, resident, or faculty member (including VA faculty with an Emory appointment) may apply.

The grant program provides financial support for small and pilot initiatives. Examples of ways in which funds can be used include stipends for:

- A statistical data analyst
- A designated person for chart review / data collection (provided they have completed CITI training / obtained electronic health record training & approval by the healthcare institution)
- Public Health or School of Nursing stipends for assistance in interdisciplinary primary care educational curricular design

Examples of initiatives that would be considered include, but are not limited to:

- Developing a curriculum that assesses the impact of tele-health coaching conducted by nursing and medical students
- Funding pilot focus groups for quality improvement projects
- Usability testing of shared decision-making tools
- Development of patient education tools

Deadlines

Requests for research / education / support can be submitted on a rolling basis, and are reviewed quarterly according to the following submission deadlines: March 15, June 15, September 15, and December 15 of every year (if the 15th falls on a holiday or weekend, then submission is due the following Monday or non-holiday week day). Award announcements will be sent via e-mail and will be posted on the Primary Care Consortium's website.

- Applications submitted by March 15 will be reviewed and announced by March 30
- Applications submitted by June 15 will be reviewed and announced by June 30
- Applications submitted by September 15 will be reviewed and announced by September 30
- Applications submitted by December 15 will be reviewed and announced by January 31

Criteria of Evaluation

Primary Care Relevance:
Degree to which the application convincingly describes the primary care focus.

Significance:
Does the project address an important problem or barrier to progress in the field? If the aims of the project are achieved, how will scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or clinical practice be improved? How will successful completion of the aims change the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventative interventions that drive this field? If funded, will the award have a substantial effect in terms of strengthening the research environment?

Innovation:
Does the application challenge and seek to shift current research or clinical practice paradigms by utilizing novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions? Are the concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions novel to one field of research or novel in a broad sense? Is a refinement, improvement, or new application of theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions proposed?

Impact:
Does the project have the potential to exert a sustained, powerful influence on the research field(s) involved?

Stipulations of Approval

If approved, the grant will only be funded after the Emory Institutional Review Board (IRB), Animal Research, the Grady Research Oversight Committee, and any other necessary committee approval is obtained. Grants are for one year from the start date of the award. The time period for completion of the grant may be extended for one additional year, at the discretion of the Primary Care Consortium Grants Committee, upon written request and justification from the investigator. This request must be submitted one month prior to the end date of the grant.

If the Principal Investigator leaves Emory, another faculty member, resident, or student may assume the role of Principal Investigator on the grant, with the written approval of the committee. A final one-page written report of the project, along with an accounting of how the funds were used, must be submitted within three months of completion of the grant period.

The Primary Care Consortium should be acknowledged in all publications, presentations, and grant applications as a result of its funded work.

No Principal Investigator may have two active grants. For an investigator to receive a second grant, she/he must submit a final report for the first grant demonstrating success in terms of presentations, publications, and possibly additional grant funding secured. Interdisciplinary and interdepartmental proposals are encouraged.

If a resubmission is suggested by the committee, only one resubmission per application may be considered. Thus, no application can be submitted more than two times.

Approval Process

A. The Principal Investigator submits the grant application in pdf form.
B. The Primary Care Consortium Committee meets four times per year, typically toward the end of the month in which the grant submission was due.
C. At least two members of the committee will review each application.
D. The committee prepares a letter describing the strengths and weaknesses of the application, as well as their funding recommendation, for the applicant. This letter is sent to the Principal Investigator.

Submission Packages

Submissions should be uploaded to Box via an e-mail attachment to Grant_A.c625uudgz1r37ag2@u.box.com. The following documents should be compiled in one PDF for submission:

A. A letter of support from a Division Director (faculty) or an Emory Mentor (students), detailing his or her commitment to serving as a mentor, the frequency and nature of his or her involvement (e.g., frequency of meetings, help in preparing applications and manuscripts for submission), and his or her assessment of the feasibility of the proposed project.
B. Applicant's NIH biosketch, limited to five pages.
C. Letters of agreement for use of patients, laboratories/equipment, or other facilities under the purview of others and a statement of Institutional Review Board (IRB) status/applicability.
D. A project description including an abstract (limited to ½ page), background, specific aims, significance and innovation, methodology (sample, procedures, methods, data analysis), feasibility, timeline, future plans, and IRB status. The project outline should not exceed five pages; excluding the references.
E. A budget with justification and a list of all personnel involved in the project indicating their role in the project and their percent efforts (see example on the PCC website). The Primary Care Consortium will not fund requests for expenses related to conference/seminar/meeting attendance. Funds can be used to support trainees or nursing staff working directly on the project. The money also can be used to provide supplementary funding for other grants if additional data are being collected with new study questions being addressed. The funds can be used to empirically test innovative educational programs.